

Monday, August 3, 2020 – 8:15 am

Isaias will likely still be a strong Tropical Storm as it passes through Hampton Roads (current forecasts would have its most likely track moving directly over or very near IOW). The forecast has sped Isaias up slightly and it is now likely that we will begin to see impacts from Isaias after midnight on Tuesday with the greatest impacts beginning several hours before dawn through early afternoon. High winds, minor tidal flooding, heavy rains, power outages are likely. There is also a potential for a few pop-up tornados. You need to be prepared for potential impacts by tonight ([www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) can help provide preparedness information).

As of the 5am National Hurricane Center (NHC) forecast update, Isaias was a strong tropical storm located about 280 miles SSW of Myrtle Beach SC with sustained winds of 70mph. Some intensification is possible today, and NHC is forecasting that Isaias could make landfall near North Myrtle Beach SC has a weak CAT 1 Hurricane this evening. It is then forecast to travel northward inland through NC into our area as a tropical storm after midnight tonight. Isaias' forward speed should have picked up by the time it reaches our area. While the faster forward speed will limit the amount of time it impacts us, it will also allow the storm to maintain strength as it travels inland through NC towards us.

Based on the current National Weather Service (NWS) hourly forecast winds will likely increase fairly quickly as Isaias reaches our area with maximum sustained winds in the mid to high 40mph range and gusts in the high 40s to 60s. The current hourly weather graph is showing that the peak winds may occur beginning about 5am through around 8am (NOTE: the actual timing of peak winds could vary significantly dependent on the actual forward speed of the storm – you should continue to plan for the high wind impacts to begin by around 2am through at least late morning). Continue to monitor the local TV/radio forecast updates for current forecast information.

As of the 7am NWS Isaias update we could see the following impacts (I've attached the NWS briefing slides from this morning for your reference):

**Impact timing** – after midnight through early afternoon (most likely arrival around 2am Tuesday)

**Wind** – at least 6-8 hours of increased winds due to Isaias. Heaviest winds most likely beginning before sunrise with peak winds just after sunrise through early morning. Sustained winds in the 30s to high 40s and gust in the high– 40s to 60s.

**Rainfall** – 2" - 6" with higher accumulations in some areas. The highest rain totals are currently forecast to our west.

**Tornados** – potential for a few tornados after midnight tonight anywhere across Hampton Roads, but especially near the coast. The Storm Prediction Center (SPC) is currently giving the area a 2-5% chance for tornados.

**Power Outages** – widespread power outages are possible

**Down trees** – the combination of heavy leaf load, heavy rains and high winds increase the chance for downed trees

**Coastal flooding** – no significant issues currently forecast

**Storm surge** – no significant issues currently forecast

**River flooding** – no significant issues currently forecast

Isle of Wight will declare an emergency effective at 8:30am today (8/3/20). The Governor declared an emergency at 6pm Friday.

Isle of Wight is not currently expecting to open shelters, but we have our shelter partners on standby.

We'll continue to monitor Isaias and will provide updates as warranted.